

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBRUARY 17, 1873.

Read twice, referred to the Committee of Claims, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. HENRY D. FOSTER, on leave, introduced the following bill :

**A BILL**

Referring the claim of J. Snowden and Son to the Court of Claims.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2   *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3   That the claim of J. Snowden and Son, of Brownsville,  
4   Pennsylvania, for further compensation for the construction  
5   of the river and harbor monitor Manayunk, may be submitted  
6   by said J. Snowden and Son, within six months after the pas-  
7   sage of this act, to the Court of Claims, under and in com-  
8   pliance with the rules and regulations of said court. And  
9   said court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine and  
10   render judgment upon the same: *Provided, however,* That  
11   the investigation on said claim shall be made upon the follow-  
12   ing basis: The said court shall ascertain the additional cost  
13   which was necessarily incurred by the contractors for build-

14 ing the river and harbor monitor Manayunk in the comple-  
15 tion of the same, by reason of any changes or alterations  
16 in any of the plans and specifications and extra work done  
17 and materials furnished beyond and independent of the original  
18 written contract in that behalf made, in the construction of  
19 the said vessel, and delays in the prosecution of the work  
20 which were not provided for in the original contract ; as also  
21 damages occasioned by the delay of the Government in fur-  
22 nishing necessary drawings, specifications, and instructions ;  
23 but no allowance for any advance in the price of labor or ma-  
24 terial shall be considered, unless such advance occurred during  
25 the prolonged time of completing the work rendered necessary  
26 by the delay resulting from the actions or negligence of the Gov-  
27 ernment aforesaid ; and then only when such advance could not  
28 have been avoided by the exercise of ordinary prudence and  
29 diligence on the part of the contractors : *And provided further,*  
30 That the compensation fixed by the contract between the con-  
31 tractors and the Government for specific alterations shall be  
32 conclusive as to the compensation to be made therefor : *And*  
33 *provided further,* That if any of said changes caused less  
34 work and expense to the contractors than the plans and speci-  
35 fications, a corresponding deduction shall be made from the  
36 contract-price, and the amount thereof be deducted from the  
37 allowance to be made by said court to said contractors.